

FEB 28 1924

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Title Page.

✓ POISONED PARADISE. ✓

A Photoplay in 7 reels

adaptation
~~Scenario~~ by Waldemar Young. ✓

Author of Photoplay (under section 62)

B P Schulberg U S A.

From Jerome Beatty,
Preferred Pictures Corp.,
1650 Broadway, N. Y. C.

FEB 28 1924

B. P. Schulberg
presents

A GASNIER PRODUCTION

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"POISONED PARADISE"

The Forbidden Story of Monte Carlo.

adaptation

From the Novel by Robert W. Service.

Scenario by Waldemar Young

Photography Karl Struss

Cast.

Hugh Kildair) Kenneth Harlan	Mrs. Belmore....Carmel Myers.
Gilbert Kildair)	Martel.....Raymond Griffith.
Margot Le Blanc...	Clara Bow	Professor Durand..Josef Swickard
Mrs. G. Kildair...	Barbara Tennant	Madame Tranquille..Evelyn Selbie
Krantz.....	Andre de Beranger	Dr. Bergius.....Michael Varconi
	Hugh Kildair(as child)	Frankie Lee
	Margot Le Blanc(as child)	Pcaches Jackson.

Story.

Margot, whose foster-mother always talked of how she had won her fortune at roulette, comes to Monte Carlo to increase the money left after her foster-mother's death so that she can buy a millinery shop. She loses everything and is starving when Martel, "the rat", who has made several overtures for friendship and been repulsed, again finds her and offers to help. In desperation she starts to go to his room.

Hugh Kildair, an artist from London, lives in the same lodgings. While painting in the park, he meets Mrs. Belmore, a beautiful woman, who belongs to a band of schemers. With her studied charms she soon ensnares the boy in a serious infatuation. After spending most of the proceeds from the sale of one of his paintings on an evening's entertainment for her, he returns to his room, looks in his wallet and finds that he has but two notes left. He tosses the wallet on the bed and goes to the corner of the room to wrap up another painting to sell.

As Margot nears Martel's room she catches sight of the wallet lying on the bed, struggles with herself, then goes in and picks it up. Hugh catches her and is about to turn her over to the police when she falls fainting at his feet saying that she is starving.

Hugh then takes her to a restaurant where she tells him her story and realizing her destitute condition he finds that the only offer of assistance he can make is that she serve as his housekeeper. He tells her that they will divide his single room with curtains and live as brother and sister. Margot trusts him and gladly goes with him.

Another of Hugh's paintings is sold and he wants to see that Margot gets her millinery shop so he goes to the Casino to win it. He is lucky and returns with a lot of money but Margot refuses it unless he agrees to give up gambling. This he will not do and goes out with Mrs. Belmore. At the Casino this time he loses everything and returns to his room despondent. Here he catches sight of the money which he had left for Margot, takes it, goes to the Casino and wins. Margot finally accepts the money and then realizes that she must leave but rather than do so feigns a sprained ankle.

-2- Poisoned Paradise synopsis.

Professor Durand, whose only son and also a friend, Gilbert Kildair, have committed suicide because of losses at the Casino, has worked out a system to break Monte Carlo. He takes the room next to Hugh, becomes acquainted with him and finds that Hugh is Gilbert Kildair's son. The secret police and Mrs. Belmire's band learn of the system and both make an effort to obtain the "key.". Realizing that he is in danger, the Professor teaches Hugh the system.

Mrs. Belmire decides to use her influence with Hugh to secure the "key" to the system and calls at his room where she meets Margot and mistake her for a servant. Mrs. Belmire leaves a message for Hugh to call at her villa that evening and Margot, wondering how she can compete with this beautiful woman is standing on her bandaged foot looking in the mirror when Hugh arrives. He notices that her foot is well and Margot shamefacedly tells him of her subterfuge. At this moment they realize their love for one another and Margot is supremely happy when she remembers the undelivered message. Hugh, despite Margot's pleading, immediately goes to Mrs. Belmire as he believes her to be in distress.

At the villa Mrs. Belmire fascinates Hugh then tries to get the Professor's secret from him. When he refuses to give her the "key" she drugs him and her confederates bind and gag him. When he regains consciousness they torture him but without success. Then Margot is brought in and when they torture her he gives in and agrees to tell them the secret. Just as he starts to write the combination, Krantz, the chief of police, enters and arrests the band for the murder of Professor Durand.

Hugh and Margot, deeply distressed over the Professor's fate, go away together realizing that the only way to beat the game at Monte Carlo is not to play.

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